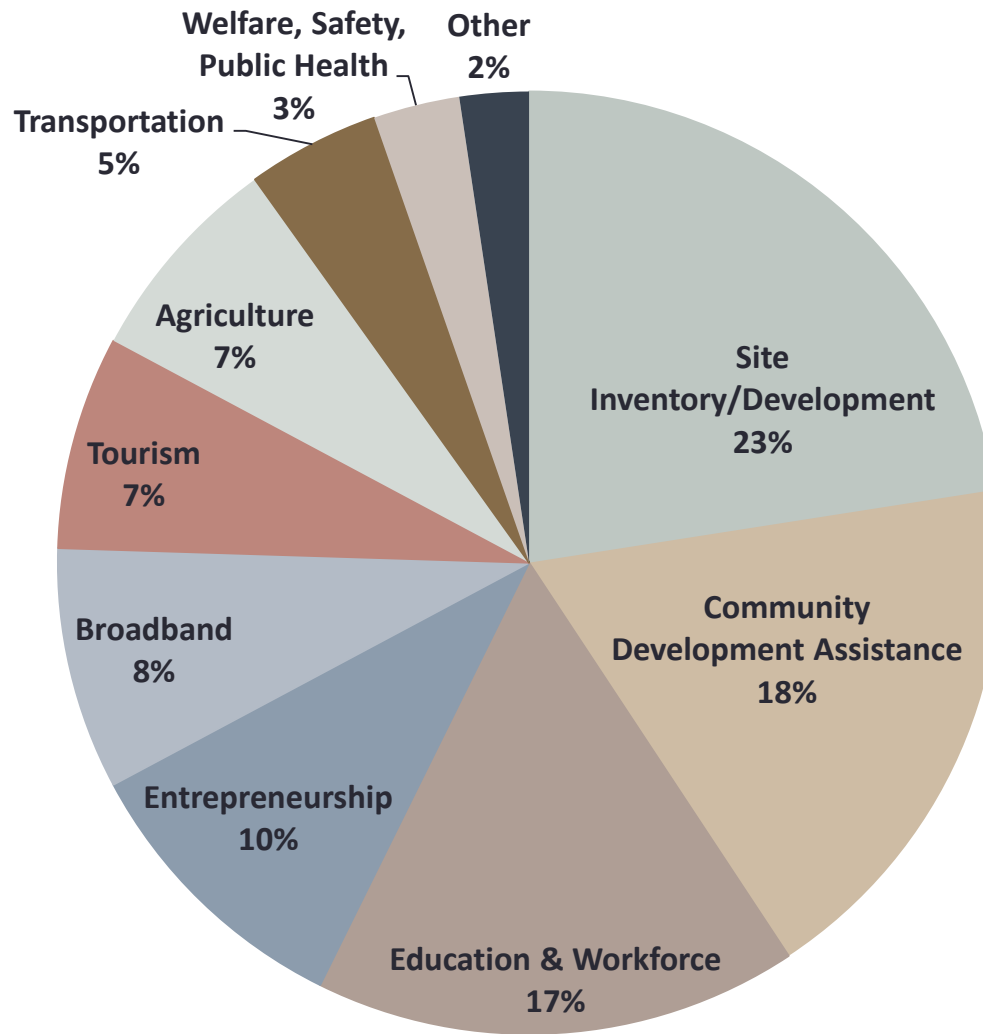# TNECD Rural Development Listening Tour
Number of Mentions by Issues

21 listening session in rural Tennessee with 250+ Mayors, City Managers, Legislators, Economic Development Practitioners, and Other Community Leaders

TNECD Rural Development Listening Tour
Number of Mentions by Issues (and Top Sub-Issues)

Issues	Statewide
Site Inventory/Development	**114**
Lack of infrastructure	26
Marketing (non-Tourism, Sites, Community)	16
Lack of funding or willingness to invest/Cost of Select TN	14
Community Development Assistance	**92**
Educating local politicians/economic developers	17
Provide different incentives (small companies, existing, moving downtown, rural areas etc.)	17
Need for education/info on resources/technical assistance	13
Facilitate Partnerships/Coordination/Cooperation	13
Education & Workforce	**84**
Uninterested students/need for marketing	26
Workforce alignment	24
Soft Skills	17
Entrepreneurship	**50**
Retail Support (Survey, education, leakage prevention, etc.)	17
Need for Assistance/Incentives	14
Accelerators/Incubators/Launch TN	9
Broadband	**42**
Lack of Service/Providers/Reliability	13
Cost/Need for funding	7
Supports Jobs (Teleworking, Entrepreneurship, Tourism)	6
Tourism	**37**
Marketing	13
Importance for Community	8
Adventure Tourism	8
Agriculture	**37**
Importance/Need for Community	8
Need for Funding or Other Assistance	8
Agri-Business/Processing	5
Transportation	**23**
Need for Road Construction due to size, new needs, maintenance	8
Proximity to interstates	7
Connected with port/rail/airports	5
Welfare, Safety, Public Health	**15**
Drugs	9
Access to healthcare/overall health	4
Other	**12**
Employment - Losing job to other states/big cities/leaving county for jobs	10

TNECD Rural Development Online Survey

Which of the following needs is most difficult for your community to access?